



Program Criteria Comparison

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE TRACK and WISCONSIN GREEN TIER

National Environmental Performance Track and the Wisconsin Green Tier program are voluntary programs designed to foster and reward environmental excellence. Performance Track is a national EPA program and Green Tier is a statewide Department of Natural Resources program. This fact sheet summarizes and compares criteria for the Performance Track Program and Tier 2 of Green Tier (the program has two tiers, Tier 1 and Tier 2). For additional information on these programs or incentives, see program web sites or contact program coordinators.

Common Program Criteria:

- *EMS Components:* an EMS with a written policy, planned targets and goals, clear roles and responsibilities for meeting goals, plans for checking and correcting non-conformance issues, and documented management review.
- *EMS Self-Assessment:* Facility must conduct regular EMS self-assessments and compliance audits.
- *EMS Independent Assessment:* An independent EMS assessment is to have taken place at the time of application.
- *Future Performance:* Facility must make a commitment to future performance improvements.
- *Annual Report:* Report must include EMS data and progress toward meeting goals, and include documentation that corrective action has been taken to address compliance and other EMS issues. Submitted data must be normalized.
- *Community Outreach:* Facility must provide a plan to identify and respond to local concerns and inform community of important matters that affect it.
- *Community References:* Facility must provide community references (e.g., member of a citizen group, union, local agency).
- *Compliance Record:* Facility must pass a comprehensive compliance screen covering federal, state, and local regulations.
- *Self-Certification:* Senior facility manager must certify that all statements in application and annual reports are true, accurate, and complete.

Green Tier - Tier 2 - Additional Criteria:

- *EMS Independent Assessment:* Facility must conduct an annual EMS assessment.
- *Compliance Audit:* Facility must conduct an annual compliance audit.
- *Community Outreach:* Facility must establish an interested persons group.
- *Compliance Record:* Facility must pass a compliance screen for the past five years for civil violations and ten years for criminal violations.
- *Membership Term:* Membership ranges from three to 10 years, depending on the participation contract signed by the facility and DNR.

Performance Track - Additional Criteria:

- *EMS Cycle:* Facility must have completed one full EMS cycle including implementation, evaluation, and review.
- *Past Performance:* Facility must demonstrate performance improvements for two environmental indicators (one indicator for small facilities). Commitments must be reported in a standard format.
- *Future Performance:* Facility must make a commitment to future performance improvements for four environmental indicators from at least two unique categories (two indicators for small facilities). Commitments must be reported in a standard format.
- *Site Visits:* Periodic site visits are conducted as part of the program.
- *Application:* Applicants must submit one application per facility.
- *Membership Term:* Membership is for three years.

Web Site: <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/cea/environmental/index.htm>
Contact: Mark McDermid, Wisconsin DNR
mark.mcdermid@dnr.state.wi.us
608-267-3125

Web Site: <http://www.epa.gov/performance-track>
Contact: Mark Messersmith, EPA Region 5
messersmith.mark@epa.gov
312-353-2154